



Winner,
DoD
Thomas
Jefferson
Award
2003

CHEVRON

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN DIEGO CA
PERMIT #2427

VOL 64 — NO 21 — COMPANY A

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2004

WWW.MCRDSD.USMC.MIL



Sgt. Maj. Scott B. Mearkle, sergeant major, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, right, passes the unit colors to Lt. Col. Robert W. Gates. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr. is also present.

New CO takes Big Blue helm

BY LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
Chevron staff

Lt. Col. Robert W. Gates assumed command of 3rd Recruit Training Battalion from Lt. Col. John R. Ewers Jr. July 15 on Shepherd Field.

Ewers took command of Big Blue in July 2003 and used that short time to positively affect the battalion, according to Maj. Michael D. Grice, battalion executive officer.

"The battalion is a better place having had him as our commander. His leadership has allowed us to bring out the leadership of all our Marines, from the youngest corporal to the most seasoned captain," said Grice.

Ewers will report to Washington, D.C., for a strategic and international studies fellowship.

Gates last served as executive officer, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan.

He graduated Towson University in 1984. He holds a masters of military studies degree and a masters of science degree in computer resources and information systems. He is a graduate of the United States Army Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, a graduate of the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course, and the Marine Corps Command and Staff College.

The new commanding officer has served as guns platoon commander, Battery O, 5th Battalion, 10th Marines; commanding officer, Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines; commanding officer, Battery T, 5th Battalion, 11th Marines; and commanding officer, Company B, Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps.

Gates' personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals and the Combat Action Ribbon.

SEMPER FRISCO

(Right) Alcatraz ranger Nancy Goodman talks to the Single Marine Program members as they tour San Francisco's famous former penitentiary. (Below) At the Marine Memorial Club, a living memorial to all Marines, SMP members eat breakfast Sunday morning. The Marines stayed four days at the club. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr. is also present.



Depot SMP ventures to Bay Area; Hawaii next

BY LANCE CPL.
EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
Chevron staff

Five junior Marines trekked to San Francisco in search of a four-day adventure.

Throughout the year, the Single Marine Program takes depot staff members to regional destinations such as Las Vegas, Big Bear Lake, Calif., and Lake Havasu, Ariz.

This was the group's first trip to San Francisco. SMP coordinator Britney O'Connor is to thank.

"Britney does a good job thinking of new trips," said Marine Corps Community Services director Bob Parker. "She puts forth the effort to go to new places instead of the same old places."

Marines from the Computer Information Systems Division suggested a trip to San Francisco during the San Diego Padres' military opening night, according to O'Connor. She said they were interested in seeing a San Francisco Giants game. The Marines' suggestion was all it took for O'Connor to try and make it happen.

Because the Giants were out of town during the trip, O'Connor decided to look for other San Francisco specific venues.

She was informed that there is a Marine Memorial Club in San Francisco and booked the group to stay there.

The walls of the club's foyer are lined with glass cases filled with Marine Corps history and the biography of the Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael W. Hagee.

O'Connor also found the infamous penitentiary Alcatraz. The Marines who attended agreed the tour of "the rock" turned out to be the highlight of the trip. They enjoyed learning about its military history, its infamous prisoners such as Al Capone and much more.

SEE SMP, pg. 6



HONOR
PLATOON

COMEBACK KID

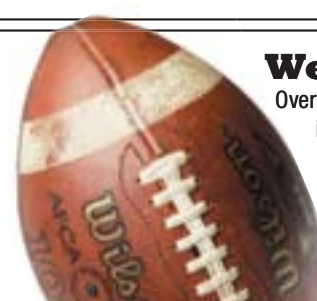
Medically separated recruit returns to finish the job.

9

CAMP WANA KURA

Depot hosts charity camp for diabetic children

5



Week 1
Overtime drama
in CG's Cup
Football

12

IRAQ Battalion honors fallen before leaving country

BY CPL. MACARIO P. MORA JR.
1st Marine Division

Marines and sailors of 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines said their final farewells to four Marines killed in action during the battalion's five-month deployment to Iraq in a ceremony July 7 at Camp Al Asad, Iraq.

The battalion honored 1st Lt. Oscar Jimenez, 34, from San Diego; Cpl. Daniel Amaya, 22, from Ector, Texas; Lance Cpl. Torrey Grey, 19, from Marion, Ill.; and Lance Cpl. Bob Roberts, 30, from Portland, Ore.

Jimenez, Amaya and Grey were killed in different fire-fights in and around Fallujah April 11.

"Those three men were lost on Easter Sunday," said Lt. Col. Bryan P. McCoy, the battalion's commanding officer. "Ironically that was the day we had our final farewell to the Marines who passed away last year."

Roberts was killed in a separate incident a month later. "Today was a day for closure," McCoy said. "Despite it all, our men kept composure and pressed on. This is a very resolute group of Marines."

Jimenez was deployed for the fourth time. He was a prior enlisted Marine with a smile that could brighten anyone's day no matter how bad, according to Cpl. Cedric C. Jordan, an embark logistics specialist.

"He was one of those few who demanded respect no matter what," Jordan said. "He led from the front, always cool, calm and collected."

Amaya was another who led by example, according to Cpl. Douglas A. Osborn, a squad leader with Company K, from Muncie, Idaho.

"He was so excited about coming out here again," Osborn said. "We were all in shock when he went down, but we were unable to grieve because of sporadic fire..."

Roberts was a very bright and experienced Marine who planned on competing for a commission in hopes of becoming an officer. He was often teased for being so much older than his peers.

"He was taken too soon," said Cpl. Charles W. Gipson, infantryman with Company L from Olympia, Wash., speaking about Grey. "They all died too young. But Grey was one guy who didn't deserve it. He loved life and we always talked about just having fun when we got home.

"It made us all fight harder," Gipson added. "None of us were going to let those guys die in vain."

The ceremony ended with a prayer and final farewell from each Marine as they marched together past four unmanned rifles, helmet on top.

"We're here to honor these men's lives," McCoy said. "Let us make the most of our lives so that these men of valor won't be forgotten. We will never forget what they stood for."



A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines pays final respects to one of four fallen Marines July 7 in the battalion's final memorial service honoring those who died during their five-month deployment to Iraq. Cpl. Macario P. Mora Jr./1st Marine Division

A killer tan can have serious results

BY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS
ERIC MCELROY
Sea & Shore Magazine

It was my first time in Puerto Rico, my first squadron, my first time on detachment – I think you get the picture. Before we left and after we arrived, we had some training and safety briefs, and, of course, one of the topics covered was sunburn. We learned (and I use that word loosely) about using sunscreen and the dangers of getting sunburned.

I should explain here that before joining the Navy, I lived in Washington state, where the sun seldom visits. When I got to Norfolk, Va., though, I started seeing the sun on a regular basis and figured I knew how much I could stand. So, when we left for Puerto Rico, I was sure I would

return with a killer tan. I certainly wasn't worried about getting sunburned.

I was assigned to night check and didn't have to work until 5 p.m., which gave me an opportunity to spend all day on the beach. Without a worry in the world, a friend and I headed to the beach with rented snorkel gear.

We arrived at 11 a.m. The wind was blowing, so the sun and temperature didn't seem that hot. I decided not to use my sunscreen. My friend, on the other hand, used sunscreen, but it provided only SPF-4 protection. Bottom line: We both were stupid!

From the beach, we could see a little island. I didn't know how far it was from shore, but anything on the water looks closer than it really is. We put on our snorkel gear and set out for the island.

The water was cool and clear, and it felt great. On the way, we saw some fish, a

lobster, and a stingray that quickly buried itself in the sandy bottom.

We swam to the far side of the island and checked the sandy bottom for sea-shells. Suddenly, however, we came to a drop-off that looked like it went straight down. The water was a deep blue, and it felt much cooler than the surrounding water. I got a chill not being able to see the ocean floor, and my mind flashed to scenes from the movie "Jaws." We quickly swam back to the other side of the island.

After snorkeling for about four more hours, we headed to the barracks to get ready for work. We had showered, shaved, and arrived at work when my skin started feeling tight, which I knew was from my newly acquired tan. A couple more hours passed, and I started feeling blisters popping up on my back. Then, I started feeling sick, but I didn't say anything about it. After all, we had been told at the safety

briefs that no one would get time off for a sunburn.

My supervisor, however, figured out what was wrong and went to the store on base and got me everything they had for sunburn. None of it helped much, though. I didn't feel any better the next day – neither did my friend. We had to go see a flight surgeon who gave us the bad news. I had second-degree burns on my back and the back of my legs; my friend had a few second-degree-burn spots on his back. I spent four days sick in quarters and still didn't feel like moving, let alone working.

Afterward, I learned just how stupid I had been: Did you know you can throw a rock and hit the equator from Puerto Rico? If I'm ever there again and you see me, wave and say "hi." You'll recognize me because I'll be the one with sunscreen rated at SPF 45. I'll also be wearing a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, and a sombrero.

Minor problem Families forced farther to find Friday fun

BY STAFF SGT. SCOTT DUNN
Press chief

I'm not a child hater. However, most military kiddies, when in my domain, create in me an uneasy disposition. Though that seems bad, I have realized others feel similarly.

In thwarting a munchkin overrun on Friday nights, Managers at the depot's recreation center forbid minors inside after 5 p.m. This dubious rule bestows the snack-bar and ping-pong privileges to the center's core patronage: the few, the grown-ups, the Marines.

The depot has no exclusive enlisted club, so rec center organizers have given the hours after 5 p.m. on Friday nights to an adult club atmosphere. But in doing so, they have grounded military children well before their bed-times.

A couple years ago, a think tank including Marine Corps Community Services officials and Single Marine Program Marines created the notion that quality of life for single Marines living at the depot would improve if they could once a week have just a few kid-free hours, and a survey of Marines gathered the same consensus, according to the rec center's manager Scott Kurtz.

He said the single Marines needed somewhere to go – as if San Diego lacks nightspots. Now parents have one less alternative because people can't share the place with children. But Kurtz said we're on a small installation, so it's OK to exclude that minority during "a small percent of the time we're open."

Oscar Wilde said, "Selfishness is not living as one

'They can have all the kid-free hours they want any time in the Locker Room and poolroom. Taking the whole rec center ... is just selfish.'

wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live." When time came to target the single Marine market here, MCCS officials asked Marines with children to live without the rec center for small periods. I say very important periods: Friday nights.

More than two years ago, the rec center was dying – otherwise known as losing money. It had 24 bowling lanes and the Comfort Zone, aka the CZ or the Slee-Z – a dark, hole-in-the-wall bar. In a much needed renovation project, workers halved the number of bowling lanes to accommodate a poolroom, an arcade and a banquet and television area. Moreover, the Slee-Z became the Locker Room – a bigger, brighter, sports-themed hole-in-the-wall bar.

"Many Marines here have never had an enlisted club," said Kurtz. "So (the rec center is) for them – for the younger Marines and their girlfriends. The depot needed an all-ranks club; they wanted to make it an adult club and open it up more to single Marines."

The Locker Room, an exclusively adult watering hole, is always off-limits to minors. Inside, it's obvious that kids don't belong there with the drinking and canoodling.

Since its inception, the Locker Room has been the depot's after-work social hub with packed crowds every Friday night, said Kurtz. It's the place for adults only.

They can have all the kid-free hours they want any time in the Locker Room and poolroom. Taking the whole rec center when kids have a right to be there is just selfish.

No matter. With the rule well established – glossed, and stuck to the tinted entrances – parents wishing to spoil their sons and daughters with free arcade games, free movies in the 50-person theater, and inexpensive bowling and food are forced elsewhere to find Friday family fun.

Roderick Brantley, a part-time desk manager at the center, told me he recently turned away a Marine and his family. He said the man wanted to take his kids out to play

video games and show them a good time before daddy went to Iraq, and "blah, blah, blah."

The Marine offered a plea to Brantley. It was disallowed. Sorry, Mac; rules are rules. Try Miramar or 32nd Street – two decent alternatives.

"Common sense prevails," said Kurtz. "Any rule can be broken for the right reasons. If that Marine was in a unique situation, I would've waived the rule for a night." He also said the rec center's employees know when to make exceptions.

Perhaps that Iraq-bound Marine drove his family another 15 miles, climbed the I-15 rush-hour traffic with the kids, and visited Jet Lanes, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's bowling center. On Fridays, Jet Lanes is open from noon to midnight, and kids are welcomed. There's no sports bar, but the snack bar's beer is just as wet as the Locker Room's.

I suggest the rec center managers make a compromise: Kurtz, who has his own children, said kids shouldn't be awake at 1 a.m., but I say that doesn't mean they have to leave after 5 p.m. The National Sleep Foundation's formal nationwide survey of children's sleep habits conducted in March indicated that school-aged children had an average bedtime of around 9 p.m. And Friday's not a school night. So have children leave at 9 o'clock, which is when many businesses close.

Military families, for the most part, don't live on the depot, but many take up housing nearby. Adolescents from these homes oftentimes flock to the recreation center without chaperones and dominate the arcade. Shocking. However, if these minors are bugging foosball-playing



Marines, management should enforce its policy to ensure responsible adults are supervising their kids. Besides, a Marine should be able to handle, if not tolerate, children in a game-filled environment.

On any given day but Friday here, it's business hours as usual for all to enjoy the recreation center.

"On Fridays, lots of Marines secure early; they start coming in after (3 p.m.)," Brantley said.

This I can fathom: After a stuffy, long week and a ring around my collar, I'm ready to unwind come Friday.

That anticipation, I imagine, could only be greater if I was a parent. My wife and I don't have children. We currently enjoy our spawtness, but we plan to change that around 2009 when minivans run on seawater.

Between now and then, we hope to molt our mutual sentiment for parenting a military child. That is: We tend to match youngins with hellions.

I hope by 2009 the recreation center managers will have rethought their policies.

A DI's spouse is the thread of his blood stripe

BY STAFF SGT. JESSE LORA
Media/Community Relations Chief

Behind many drill instructors are good spouses. And they handle hardships as well as most Marines – something that rarely gets mentioned.

They put up with Drill Instructor School and three-month training cycles. They put up with the long hours and short weekends.

I talked to one wife whose husband is a DI here. Her words and tears paint a good understanding.

"The beginning of his school was intense," said Starr K. Martinez, wife to Staff Sgt. Ernie Martinez, Company M. "The structure of DI School stressed out Ernie, yet I supported him throughout the process and helped whenever I could."

She suddenly became the mechanic, the auditor, the father figure, the plumber and the electrician. Symbolically speaking, she was the thread in her husband's blood-striped trousers.

"When the father is gone, it's really hard on the spouse and the children," said Martinez. "I had to handle all the chores of the house. All the activities that run a household became mine.

"I loved the weekends. Although they were short, we are lucky to spend half a day on Saturday, and he had to head back to the depot on Sunday just before the dawn."

During recruit training cycles, Martinez's commitment to her husband exceeds typical wedding vows. She oftentimes travels many miles to Camp Pendleton, Calif., to bring hot chow to her husband and others.

"Those precious moments together were worth the drive and hours of missed sleep," said Starr. "I knew he wanted me there whenever possible. And how could I not make such an easy task not happen?"

During recruit graduations, Martinez shares equal excitement with thousands of loved ones clapping and cheering to honor their sons and the mysterious DIs.

"Graduation day is the day that the spouses breathe a sigh of relief," said Martinez. "It's another cycle under his belt, and now I get my husband back for a little while.

"I'm proud of what Ernest has become. He's made senior and runs his own platoon, and I'm happy that we did it together. I've been through some pain getting there, some real pain, but it's been all worth it ... I'm proud to say I was there by his side.

"Communication between Ernie and me was the key to our success. The DI mode that he brought home early on – the deep, throaty voices, the barking of short orders – came to a screaming halt, when I voiced my opinion. The DI mode over time subsided at home, and I got the man I married back."

The spouse plays an important role to the foundation of a DI when the "smokey" hat is on or off. With glassy eyes and deep pride, happy and sad tears explained her thoughts. The backbone of the DI is the Marine Corps spouse.

"Looking back at our accomplishments, I'm forever happy we did it together," said Martinez. "Our support for each other was always present."

CHEVRON
ESTABLISHED 1943

COMMANDING GENERAL
BRIG. GEN. JOHN M. PAXTON JR.
SERGEANT MAJOR
SGT. MAJ. FRANK E. PULLEY

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
MAJ. JOSEPH D. KLOPPPEL
joseph.klopppe@usmc.mil

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF
MASTER SGT. JANICE M. HAGAR
janice.hagar@usmc.mil

PRESS OFFICER
1ST LT. ANTHONY DELSIGNORE
anthony.delsignore@usmc.mil

PRESS CHIEF
STAFF SGT. SCOTT DUNN
scott.dunn@usmc.mil

EDITOR
STAFF SGT. SCOTT DUNN

WEBMASTER
DAVID HOFFMAN
david.hoffman@usmc.mil

COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS
SGT. LEONARD E. LANGSTON
CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT
LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
LANCE CPL. JESS LEVENS

CHEVRON/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
1600 HENDERSON AVE. #120
SAN DIEGO, CA 92140
(619) 524-8722

The Chevron, printed with appropriated funds in compliance with Marine Corps Order P5600.31F, is published by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego personnel. Opinions and views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Marine Corps or the Department of Defense. The Chevron is promulgated for informational purposes only and in no way should be considered directive in nature. All photos are official USMC property unless otherwise indicated.



MECEP Prep reaches summit
A record 51 Marine Enlisted Commissioning Program Preparatory School students and six staff members hiked Mt. Charleston's 12,000-foot summit in southern Nevada July 17. The school's annual 20-mile hike is optional, according to Lt. Col. Michael I. Moffett, school director. The student count remains steady at 102, said Moffett. MECEP Prep students also held a mess night Thursday at the nearby Admiral Kidd Conference Center, Antisubmarine Warfare Training Center. Their guest of honor was retired Maj. Gen.

Robert E. Habel, an enlisted Marine in 1945 who later served as base commander for Camp Pendleton, Calif. Also at the mess night was retired Lt. Col. Tom Richards, a Navy Cross recipient and an enlisted Marine in Vietnam in 1969. Richards will be the featured speaker for the MECEP Prep graduation Aug. 4 at McDougall Hall. Additionally, prep student Sgt. Christopher M. Genetti will be awarded the Bronze Star for combat actions in Iraq at morning colors ceremony today. *Courtesy of Lt. Col. Michael I. Moffett*

Extreme Makeover

ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition is currently seeking a military person who owns a house in the Southern California area, who has spent extraordinary amounts of time away from their family because they have been defending our country, who may have been injured going above and beyond the call of duty by helping others, and has absolutely no time or resources to make home improvements. The show is seeking a Marine or service member who has a compelling story and is an upstanding member of the community. If you have any information about possible candidates please call Staff Sgt. Sergio Jimenez, (310) 235-7272 or fax (310) 235-7274 or write to Public Affairs Chief, Marine Corps Motion Picture & TV Liaison Office, 10880 Wilshire Boulevard Suite 1230, Los Angeles, Calif., 90024.

Operation Homecoming

Operation Homecoming will run through Veteran's Day, allowing returning service members and up to four direct dependents, a one-time, free entry to one of the Sea World, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks. The offer provides for one visit to one park only. Proof of deployment or overseas service is required along with a valid Department of Defense identification and completed application form. Ap-

plication forms will be available on-line and at park front gates.

Women Marines Association biennial convention

The Women Marines Association will host their biennial convention Sept. 4-8 at the Westin Horton Plaza, 910 Broadway Circle, San Diego. Registration information can be obtained from local WMA chapters, through the WMA Web site at www.womenmarines.org or by contacting sgtmajjudge@cox.net. Membership in WMA is open to all women serving or having served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps or the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Additional information is available by calling 1-888-525-1943.

Designated Driver volunteers needed

The Designated Drivers Association is looking for volunteers. Volunteers can meet new people, earn extra money in tips, and make a difference. Drunk drivers kill almost 17,000 Americans and injure over 700,000 each year. Volunteering for the Designated Drivers Association is a pro-active way to get

involved in the community. Volunteers must be at least 18 and have a valid driver's license and insurance. For more information, visit www.ddasd.org or call (866) 373-7233.

Chosen Few banquet

The Montford Point Marine Association San Diego Chapter 12 will hold the Chosen Few Banquet Aug. 28 from 6 to 10 p.m. at the 32nd Street Naval Station. For more information, contact Sam Bagwell at (619) 524-6865.

Iraqi-culture classes available

The Iraqi community of San Diego would like to show their appreciation to service members heading to Iraq. The community is available to set up a question and answer session on the Iraqi culture and people for service members deploying to Iraq. For more information on the Iraqi Community of San Diego, contact Camille Al-Attia at (619) 417-3912 or via e-mail at catallia@yahoo.com.

Submit possible briefs to the Chevron via e-mail to guevaraer@mcrdsd.usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards and regulations of the U.S. Government.

Off-limits areas to military

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board and Navy Region Southwest Commands' authority to declare a business off-limits on an emergency basis, the following off-limits orders are imposed upon all military personnel in the region. This message cancels and supercedes previous off-limits information.

Areas removed:

- Mr. O's nightclub and adjoining parking lot, 1299 Camino del Rio South, San Diego

- Base Liquor and adjoining parking lot, 3201 National Avenue, San Diego

Area added:

The 2600 to 3600 block of Main Street, including the McDonald's and Burger King parking lots on 28th Street, from midnight on Wednesdays until 5 a.m. on Wednesdays.

The following places are off-limits to military personnel at all times:

- Advanced Services of San Diego, the Focus Point, and/or any other photo-finishing business located at 849 4th Avenue
- Midnight Adult Book Store, 3606 Midway Drive
- Club Mustang, 2200 University Avenue
- Club San Diego, 3955 Fourth Street
- Dream Crystal, 1536 Highland Avenue, National City
- Get It On Shoppe, 3219 Mission Boulevard
- Main Street Motel, 3494 Main Street
- Vulcan Baths, 805 West Cedar Street

The following is off-limits at times specified:

- South Mission Beach parking lot located at South Mission Beach Park denominated 600 San Diego Place (to include the sidewalk, grass, and beach areas immediately adjacent to the parking lot) is off-limits between 12 p.m. and 10 p.m., every Sunday, from the first day of May to the first day of October every year.

The following are off-limits areas from sunset to sunrise

- The undeveloped property in Otay Mesa, south San Diego, bordered on the west by Interstate 805, on the south by Highway 905 and Otay Mesa Road, on the north by Otay Valley Road, and on the east by Otay Valley Road and Heritage Road, except while traveling to, from, or remaining at any private residence or licensed businesses within the described area.

- Willie Henderson Park/San Diego City Park at 45th Street and Logan Avenue.

Areas of caution

- The external perimeter area of Naval Base San Diego remains a potentially dangerous location, especially during darkness and should be avoided.

- Many trolley stations become potentially dangerous areas after trolley services end, especially at Palomar Street and San Ysidro. Personnel using trolley services should know the hours of operation.

to all Tijuana area jails. If arrested by Mexican authorities, U.S. military personnel should immediately identify themselves and cooperate.

Most Tijuana jails will allow U.S. military personnel to telephone the BSP. In addition to the BSP, employees of the U.S. Consulate in Tijuana, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Customs Service, and the U.S. Border Patrol will assist military personnel.

All personnel in pay grades E-3 and below must obtain advance permission from their commanders, and they must receive a briefing on liberty pitfalls in Mexico prior to entering the Mexican border area. They must also use the buddy system (at least one other Marine or adult),

ing money to police. Payment of money should only be done before a proper court official.

All liberty incidents occurring in Mexico should be reported to the Border Shore Patrol immediately, especially incidents involving allegations of extortion or assault by Mexican police or uniformed private security personnel (such as club bouncers). The BSP is located on the ground floor of the customs building on the U.S. side of the San Ysidro border crossing. The telephone numbers from the U.S. is (619) 428-2427/1318. If calling from Mexico, use the long distance operator who will then make the connection to the BSP. Collect calls will be accepted. BSP makes frequent visits

derstand their military status gives them no special rights or protections beyond that of an ordinary American tourist in Mexico.

When driving into Mexico, obtaining Mexican automobile insurance coverage is strongly recommended. Without proof of Mexican insurance, or other immediate financial resources, persons involved in traffic accidents may be held in jail indefinitely until issues of criminal and civil liability are resolved. Personnel who use automated teller machines, especially late at night, are often targeted as victims of robbery, assault or extortion.

Personnel should not resist lawful arrest or attempt to settle disputes by offering or giv-

CROSSING THE BORDER

Leave and liberty policy for Mexico

Service members continue to experience assaults and other victimization in Tijuana, especially late at night. The majority of those victimized are intoxicated and separated from friends during late night hours, reconfirming the importance of judgment, the buddy system, and sobriety.

The following is specific information about Tijuana:

There is no status of forces agreement with Mexico. U.S. military personnel should un-

We Wana Kura



Diabetes victim Christopher Carlisle adds flare to his canvas bag. Decorating bags was one of many Camp Wana Kura activities Tuesday.

Diabetic youngsters gather for camping week at depot



The Unit 7 Jaguars work together to personalize their unit flag at Camp Wana Kura Tuesday. The camp ends today and all proceeds help the American Diabetes Association find a cure for the disease.
Lance Cpl. Jess Levens/Chevron photos

BY LANCE CPL. JESS LEVENS
Chevron staff

About 200 diabetic children gathered at the boathouse here this week to participate in Camp Wana Kura, sponsored by the American Diabetes Association's San Diego Chapter.

Activities kicked off Tuesday around 9 a.m. with a flag ceremony. The Depot Color Guard presented the Marine Corps and national colors while the children stood with their hands over their hearts and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Once the Marines retired the colors, the children submerged themselves in a plethora of activities ranging from jumping rope, to making arts and crafts.

One of the more unique activities was making unit flags, according to Melissa Kohn, a 20-year-old volunteer.

"The kids have been divided into seven units," said the 16-year diabetes victim. "Each unit gets to make a flag and decorate it. We have some really creative kids here."

Other activities included bag and hat decorating, soccer, football and other sports.

This year's camp followed a specific theme: Fiesta Days at the Bay. To coincide with the theme, each unit wrote the name of a Latin country on its flag. Some participants even wore sombreros.

Although the camp was fun-oriented, the volunteers had their hands full with the regulation of the campers' diabetes. Volunteers had to test the kids' blood sugar levels on a regular basis, keep the campers hydrated and give them rationed snacks throughout the day.

Money raised from the camp will be used to search for a cure for diabetes.



Ten-year-old Jackson Chandler, right, and his fellow campers recite the Pledge of Allegiance at Camp Wana Kura's opening ceremony.

SMP, from pg. 1
“I enjoyed the opportunity afforded to me to see a historical city such as San Francisco,” said Protocol noncommissioned officer Cpl. Daniel H. Bernardino. “There were a lot of things I saw and witnessed, such as Alcatraz and the great clubs.”
The majority of the trips allow the Marines to explore as they please instead of keeping them on a strict itinerary.

The Marines and O’Connor exchanged cell phone numbers to keep in contact in case of emergency or to invite each other when they went out on the town.
Brazilian native Bernardino invited everyone to join him in feeling the sounds of Brazilian music at local clubs he had tracked down through communicating with Brazilians he came across in the city.

“Every Marine should take advantage of SMP,” Bernardino said. “It is a great way to get out, save money and have fun with fellow Marines. Oorah!”

One new Marine to the depot took advantage of the trip to help meet new Marines.

“A fellow Marine told me about the trip,” said Lance Cpl. Jason A. Maat, administrative clerk, depot adjutant. “It provided me an opportunity to meet more Marines that I previously wouldn’t have known.”

According to Maat, Marines go on these trips together and end up making friends.

Like other Marines, Maat was attracted to the trip location. “(The price of the trip) was cheap and I have never been to San Francisco,” Maat said. “The new location appealed to me.”

MCCS officials plan the events for Marines and contribute to the total cost, but it is up to the Ma-

rines and their commands to allow them to attend.

“It’s important for everyone to understand that the SMP is not a substitute for small-unit leadership nor is it designed to circumvent the chain of command,” said Sgt. Maj. Frank E. Pulley, depot and the Western Recruiting Region sergeant major. “However, our SMP does in fact provide an excellent forum for single personnel, especially those who reside in the barracks, to identify and voice certain Quality of Life issues. Further, the SMP provides various ways for Marines to give something back to the community.”

“To date, I have been extremely pleased with how the respective sergeants major aboard the depot try to support the SMP. I do think we could do better in ensuring that more personnel attend the scheduled meetings.”

Most of the Marines who went on the trip had no problem getting command approval for the trip.

“It is easy to get approval as long as you do your work and act as a Marine should,” said Bernardino.

SMP Marines will go to Hawaii next week as part of a combined trip with other West Coast SMPs.

“I know first-hand how the SMP coordinator ... and the local SMP council go to great lengths to help improve the quality of life for our Marines and sailors,” said Pulley. “Ms. O’Connor goes above and beyond to identify and schedule fun activities for the single personnel assigned to the depot and WRR. The recent San Francisco trip along with the upcoming trip to Hawaii are two examples of the outstanding opportunities made available through the SMP.”

O’Connor tries planning trips every five or six weeks. For information on upcoming trips and events, call her at (619) 524-8240 or contact a section’s SMP representative.

San Francisco served as stomping grounds for a four-day trip arranged by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron photos



Protocol noncommissioned officer Cpl. Daniel H. Bernardino rests on the benches of the shower room in Alcatraz.



Cpl. Tim M. Brosius, network technician, Communications and Information Systems Department, and Lance Cpl. David N. Kusinitz, administrative clerk, Recruit Training Regiment, discuss the best walking route to one of San Francisco’s local sports bars.



SMP coordinator Britney O’Connor and Cpl. Tim M. Brosius load their van before driving back nine hours to San Diego.

Depot band rocks Washington high schools, supports recruiting

BY SGT. PHUONG CHAU
12th Marine Corps Recruiting District

More than 20 Marine Band San Diego members traveled to campuses in Washington state May 24 to support recruiting. Leathernecks from the unit's show band ensemble performed at Olympia High School, Capitol High School and South Puget Sound Community College.

Some people might have had the preconceived notion that Marine musicians only play the marches of John Phillip Souza or other patriotic pieces. Dispelling that myth was one of Recruiting Station Seattle's goals by exposing these rock-star leathernecks to the area's schools. The Showband's performance demonstrated different career options the Marine Corps offers today. The unit performed popular songs that are often played on the local radio stations.

Dancing to songs ranging from Toby Keith's



Sgt. Brian P. Hunter works a sound board at South Puget Sound Community College. A show band ensemble played in Washington to support recruiting. Sgt. Phuong Chau/12th District

"Beer for my Horses," to pieces from Audioslave and Evanescence, Capital High School students could not stay in their seats during the show. The Marines also passed out Marine Corps incentive items to the audience. Students proudly displayed their Marine Corps memorabilia and cheered the performers.

"We never get anything like this here," explained Rob Lester, a ninth grade trumpet player at Capital High School, who was impressed with the Marines' performance. I thought it was pretty cool. I did not realize the Marines had a rock band."

After the concert, Lester said he learned about an after-graduation career option that he might not have thought about before.

At the conclusion of the Capital performance, the Marines introduced themselves individually and told the audience why they initially joined the Marines, where they were before the Corps and how serving their country has affected their lives.

Each of the Marines conveyed to the students how they can have fun being a musician and get paid. "It is a good gig," summarized one Leatherneck.

Marines who recruit from these schools also understand the great benefit of having Marine musicians visit the community.

According to Recruiting Substation Olympia recruiter Staff Sgt. Marvin Caulk, this was an opportunity to expose the Marine Corps to schools that might have been less supportive to them previously. This gave him and his fellow recruiters another chance to tell the Marine Corps story.

Gunnery Sgt. Gregory Fisher, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge of RSS Olympia, echoed those same feelings. He said the band gave them the chance to enter schools with limited access for recruiting.

"This is one of the biggest assets I have seen since I have been out here (on recruiting duty)," said Caulk.

Many of the San Diego Marines enjoyed the chance to visit Washington.

"It is straight up gorgeous here," said Sgt. Hugh Wurts, Marine Band San Diego stage manager.

Marine Band San Diego bandsmen left impressions on a multitude of young men and women and helped make a positive difference in recruiting for years to come.



Cpl. Aaron Rapp plays his trumpet like a guitar at a Washington school May 26. Sgt. Phuong Chau/12th District

Alpha company DI keeps freedom in perspective

BY CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT
Chevron staff

Every year Americans pass the responsibility of protecting the freedoms of this country to the thousands of volunteers who enter the military as defenders of peace.

Staff Sgt. Carlos E. Gutierrez, senior drill instructor, platoon 1081, Company A, is one who enthusiastically accepts that responsibility.

At approximately 3 o'clock in the morning on just about any day of the week, Gutierrez leaves his wife and two little girls at home to go make more protectors of freedom at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

Gutierrez, who has been a Marine for nearly eight years and a drill instructor for two of those years, said there is nothing else he would rather do.

"I have wanted to be a Marine since I was 12 years old," said Gutierrez. "I never think about being a Marine as a job. It is not a job. It is who I am."

Gutierrez's desire to serve was fostered at an early age in his life. He spent many of his early childhood years in Mexico and moved to Colorado at age 7. He remembered the differences he saw in the two places and the struggles people experienced.

"It made me appreciate the freedoms and opportunities we have available in the United States," said Gutierrez.

"I've seen people who are just worrying about where their next meal is going to come from rather than what video game they are going to play next or what TV show is coming on at prime time."

Gutierrez is proud to say that he, as a drill instructor, has changed many of his recruits' at-

titudes about how they perceive their freedom.

"Some don't realize how much freedom they have until they come here," said Gutierrez. "They learn to appreciate all the things they got to do as civilians a lot more. Even more importantly, they learn that all of the freedom and opportunity we have is because someone is standing a post."

Gutierrez works to ensure all recruits he trains are fully qualified to stand any post and win any battle. His work ethic is one to be duplicated by peers, said Staff Sgt. Martin J. Brewer, chief drill instructor, Company A.

"He is a hard worker and is very demanding with all of his recruits," said Brewer who has known Gutierrez since Drill Instructor School. "His ability to lead by example is the reason he was appointed to the billet of series gunnery sergeant, beginning next cycle."

Gutierrez has earned many awards since beginning his tour aboard the depot, including the Dan Daly Award and two Band of Brothers Awards. Gutierrez also holds the highest physical fitness test score in Company A.

Even with all of those honors, Gutierrez said that his proudest moments were the births of his two children.

"He is very family oriented," said Brewer. "He is able to keep things in the proper perspective and balance, which is critical to success on the drill field."

Gutierrez looks to a long future in the Marine Corps and is passionate about protecting the future of this country and his family.

"Freedom is not free," said Gutierrez. "It is something worth fighting for because many before me and after me have and will die for it. I am proud to do my part in ensuring the American dream will always be there for generations to come."



Staff Sgt. Carlos E. Gutierrez, senior drill instructor, Platoon 1081, Company A, drills his platoon during graduation practice July 22. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron

Title found second time around

Marine beats pneumonia for chance at boot-camp comeback

BY LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
Chevron staff

“

He's going to recognize me; he's going to recognize me," the young Dallas native thought to himself. "I know what I'm doing here, but why did I do it again?" ☉ Allen Lasky and other young men in the dark bus poured out onto yellow footprints. The men moved inside behind red bins and emptied their pockets. ☉ To speed up the process, the drill instructor in charge counted down, "5, 4, 3, 2, 1, you will be ..." ☉ Lasky gave a lone response: "Done, sir!"

"I was the only one to say it," said Lasky, who recognized the drill instructor in charge.

Staff Sgt. Jeremy A. Staton had not yet recognized Lasky, who came here for recruit training his first time in September 2002. He made it to the 12th training day before Staton escorted him to Marine Rehabilitation Platoon here.

Flu-like symptoms took over Lasky's body a week into training. He coughed blood and became disoriented while in MRP.

Lasky spent more than a week at Naval Medical Center San Diego.

"The pneumonia came real sudden," said Lasky. "I had a gurgling cough. It sounded like fluid coming up when I coughed."

After three months in rehabilitation, he was administratively separated from the Marine Corps. Officials had determined he would not recover fast enough to return to training.

He went home to Texas.

"He never lost interest or desire," his mother Kathy Lasky said. "After work he would find time to jog in the evenings through the Texas heat. He still coughed but progressively got better."

His parents warned him that he could not return

to recruit training if his lungs did not heal correctly. They told him he should dedicate himself to a job.

As the coughing dwindled, Lasky progressed from jogging once a week to running two or three times a week.

"I didn't know (running a couple times a week) was going to work, but I kept trying and did it anyways," he said. "I would run farther and farther, and I didn't cough as much, so I just kept going."

He worked with recruiters and visited the local Military Entrance Processing Station with a civilian doctor's written approval for him to train.

"MEPS wouldn't accept it," Lasky said. "They said they wanted a second opinion."

With the full support of his parents, Lasky obtained another doctor's approval and went on to recruit training.

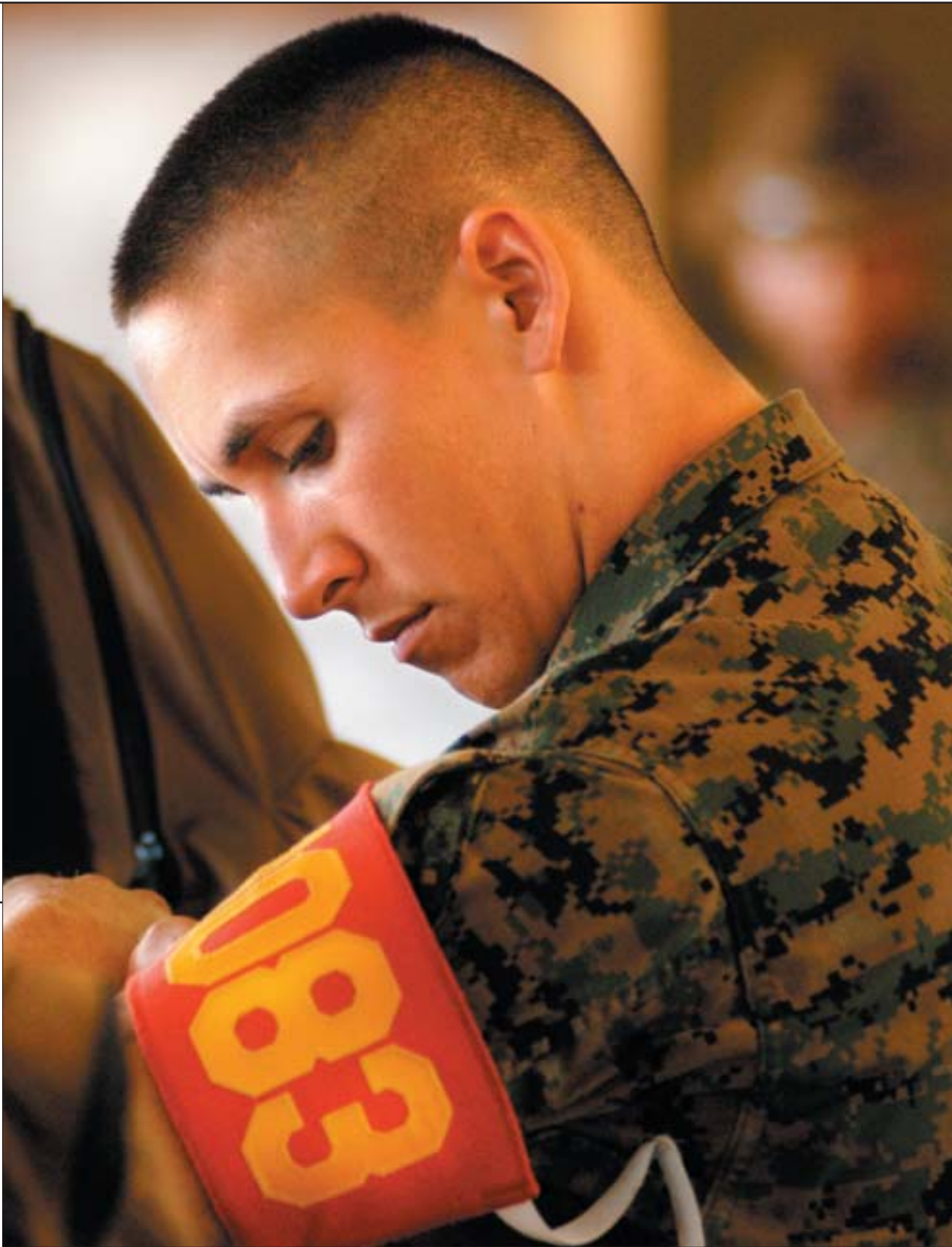
"I wanted to finish what I started," said Lasky. "I felt like I had failed, and I knew I could do it."

Lasky returned to San Diego.

He remembers a funny look on Staton's face.

"You look familiar," Staton said. "Where do I know you from?"

"This recruit has been here before ..." Lasky said. "You were one of my recruits, weren't you?" inter-



PFC Allen Lasky straps on his Platoon 1083 armband. Lasky's unhesitating initiative earned him the platoon's guide position early in training. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

ALPHA COMPANY



Platoon 1077
COMPANY HONORMAN
PFC A. D. Bellido
Plano, Texas
Recruited by
Sgt. J. Elzondo



Platoon 1083
SERIES HONORMAN
PFC A. T. Lasky
Dallas
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. J. Lopez



Platoon 1078
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC J. M. Harris
San Antonio
Recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. R. H. Perez



Platoon 1079
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC R. Torres
San Diego
Recruited by
Sgt. J. F. Parks



Platoon 1081
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC K. K. Siler
Tahlequah, Okla.
Recruited by
Sgt. S. H. Stierwalt Jr.



Platoon 1082
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC J. A. Zente VI
San Antonio
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. R. L. Pancoast



Platoon 1083
HIGH SHOOTER (243)
PFC P. R. Juarez
Albuquerque, N.M.
Recruited by
Sgt. L. H. Gonzales



Platoon 1077
HIGH PFT (300)
PFC M. J. Mead
Spokane, Wash.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. D. Stubbs

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT & WESTERN RECRUITING REGION
Commanding General
BRIG. GEN. J. M. PAXTON JR.
Sergeant Major
SGT. MAJ. F. E. PULLEY

RECRUIT TRAINING REGIMENT
Commanding Officer
COL. W. M. CALLIHAN
Sergeant Major
SGT. MAJ. M. L. SHEPARD
Regimental Drill Master
GUNNERY SGT. P. DOMINGUEZ JR.
Parade Adjutant
GUNNERY SGT. J. R. BIGGS JR.
Narrator
GUNNERY SGT. C. A. WALKER

MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO
Band Officer
WARRANT OFFICER E. M. HAYES
Band Master
GUNNERY SGT. B. C. PARADIS

COLOR GUARD
SGT. M. E. ORTEGA
SGT. H. J. SOTORODRIGUEZ
PVT. R. L. LEBDA
PVT. R. R. NOEL

FIRST RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
Commanding Officer
Lt. Col. B. S. Blankenship
Chaplain
Lt. Cmdr. M. G. Mueller
Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. J. V. Morgan
Battalion Drill Master
Staff Sgt. D. L. Tompkins
Adjutant
Gunnery Sgt. J. R. Biggs, Jr.

COMPANY A
Commanding Officer
Capt. S. J. Kelly
Company First Sergeant
1st Sgt. C. A. Reyna

SERIES 1077
Series Commander
Capt D. Moore
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Staff Sgt. R. Cantrell

SERIES 1081
Series Commander
Capt J. E. Logan
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Staff Sgt. M. J. Brewer

PLATOON 1077
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. C. Gomez
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. A. Figueroa
Staff Sgt. L. B. Abanto

Pvt. N. E. Aikman
PFC T. M. Amsbaugh
Pvt. P. A. Argenbright
Pvt. C. E. Auvil
PFC J. G. Avendano
*PFC A. D. Bellido
Pvt. J. W. Bennett
Pvt. S. B. Bernard
Pvt. M. S. Bernardo
Pvt. S. M. Bishop
PFC B. Blackfox
Pvt. J. W. Blair
PFC M. J. Blair
Pvt. J. M. Blue
PFC D. E. Boos
Pvt. D. L. Booth
Pvt. M. W. Brandt
PFC J. E. Bregler
Pvt. D. M. Brown
PFC E. C. Campbell
PFC A. D. Campbell
Pvt. F. F. Cappitelli
Pvt. M. Carranza
Pvt. N. F. Chapman
PFC J. W. Clay
PFC B. J. Clevenger
Pvt. B. J. Collins
Pvt. T. M. Cooning
PFC J. R. Corona
Pvt. O. V. Covos
PFC J. Cuevas
Pvt. M. A. Deluna Narvaez
Pvt. M. T. Demarco
Pvt. R. N. Digilio
Pvt. P. A. Dunbar
Pvt. D. T. Edwards
Pvt. A. Estrella
PFC M. J. Finley

Pvt. L. A. Forney
Pvt. G. I. Garcia
Pvt. S. R. Garza
Pvt. M. L. Gonzales
Pvt. A. Granados
*PFC R. R. Henson
Pvt. A. S. Hews
Pvt. C. O. Hines
Pvt. G. M. Hollander
Pvt. J. A. Hollaway
PFC B. J. Hook
Pvt. D. P. Hudson
PFC D. J. Hutchings
Pvt. C. J. Jeansonne
Pvt. J. R. Jimenez
Pvt. B. L. McBride
Pvt. M. J. Mead
Pvt. A. L. Paugels
Pvt. J. L. Taylor

PLATOON 1078
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. A. Dillard
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. A. L. Rodriguez
Sgt. V. L. Jarvis
Staff Sgt. V. J. Gutierrez

Pvt. N. M. Aguilar
*PFC J. E. Anwyll
PFC M. C. Banno
Pvt. N. G. Begay
Pvt. A. Betancourth Jr.
Pvt. J. W. Biggs
Pvt. P. A. Bowen
Pvt. J. E. Bradley
*PFC A. B. Brock
PFC C. A. Broeder

PFC P. A. Brown
Pvt. T. J. Bushart
Pvt. M. J. Calderon
Pvt. S. C. Casner
PFC C. T. Chapman
PFC D. L. Childs
Pvt. S. M. Christon
Pvt. N. R. Cox
Pvt. G. M. Culp
PFC M. L. Davis
Pvt. Z. L. Diehl
PFC N. E. Ducat
Pvt. C. M. Eisenbarth
Pvt. D. E. Emmons
Pvt. B. J. Ericksen
Pvt. C. A. Faulk
Pvt. A. Fuentes
Pvt. M. Garcia
PFC B. S. Garner
PFC Z. T. Gersh
PFC A. H. Gilmer
Pvt. A. P. Granger
*PFC J. N. Guerra
PFC J. P. Hackenberg
Pvt. C. J. Hahn
PFC M. D. Hammond
PFC J. M. Harris
Pvt. J. V. Hernandez
PFC D. A. Hiatt
Pvt. M. R. Hilger
*PFC T. P. Hill
PFC J. T. Hong
Pvt. I. N. Horina
Pvt. A. R. Huckleberry
Pvt. R. E. Humerick
PFC J. H. Jackson
Pvt. J. I. Jackson
Pvt. C. M. Johnson

PLATOON 1079
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. L. Shumate
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. A. F. Mora
Gunnery Sgt. M. F. Delacruz

Pvt. J. L. Barry
PFC J.D. Barry
Pvt. M. T. Bates
Pvt. B. A. Beers
Pvt. J. J. Blaul
PFC P. J. Bordonaro
Pvt. S. K. Hopkins
Pvt. B. M. Carey
PFC B. M. Cetera
*PFC C. J. Chestnut
Pvt. D. P. Coates
Pvt. B. A. Lubert
Pvt. R. K. Lukens
PFC A. Marquez
PFC H. May
Pvt. T. W. Moore
*PFC J. J. Motley
PFC A. P. Mowen
Pvt. C. L. Olcott
Pvt. B. W. Palencia
PFC F. R. Perezgomez
Pvt. J. A. Peters
*PFC C. S. Peterson
Pvt. V. C. Pournier
Pvt. P. H. Rodriguez
Pvt. W. A. Rodriguez
Pvt. J. L. Ruiz
Pvt. C. Z. Salas
Pvt. M. R. Salomon
Pvt. W. I. Scott
*PFC K. K. Siler

PLATOON 1082
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. Ulceus
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. B. C. Hester
Sgt. J. Moreno

Pvt. N. M. Albers
Pvt. J. M. Barton
Pvt. T. B. Bonneur
PFC J. I. Broderick
*PFC D. S. Clore
Pvt. R. B. Cummings
Pvt. N. L. Davenport
Pvt. M. D. Dunn
PFC S. P. Gallenstein
Pvt. B. D. Hibdon
Pvt. C. R. Hudgins
PFC J. B. Hurst
PFC E. M. Latrell
PFC N. D. Lee
Pvt. T. E. Lockrem
Pvt. R. Luna
Pvt. D. M. Mahoney
PFC H. R. Martinez
PFC D. Martinez-Chavez
PFC R. A. Mauier
*PFC N. D. McElroy
Pvt. K. A. McElroy
Pvt. B. R. McFarland
Pvt. A. Medina Perales
Pvt. R. Mendez Medina
*PFC T. Mortensen
Pvt. B. A. Moutinho
PFC J. W. Munsee
Pvt. D. T. Ortiz
PFC B. M. Pack
PFC J. C. Parker
Pvt. A. J. Perry
Pvt. C. P. Phillips
Pvt. A. N. Puga
Pvt. V. M. Ramirez
Pvt. T. W. Reddout
PFC J. K. Roenicke

Pvt. B. W. Rokahr
Pvt. J. T. Bliss
Pvt. L. A. Roy
Pvt. C. W. Schaap
Pvt. N. A. Sharum
Pvt. B. T. Simmons
Pvt. A. Solorio
PFC S. D. Stoner
Pvt. G. Q. Taitingfong
PFC W. R. Taylor
PFC J. J. Taylor
*PFC A. Tejeda
Pvt. C. J. Van Gundy
Pvt. B. M. Wagner
Pvt. J. E. West
Pvt. M. E. Williams
Pvt. M. D. Wright
Pvt. R. D. Yarte
*PFC J. A. Zente VI

PLATOON 1083
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. M. R. Thompkins
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. S. G. Garcia
Sgt. J. A. Valenzuela
Sgt. J. Altamirano

*PFC M. O. Artis
Pvt. C. L. Aunapu
PFC C. F. Bash
Pvt. D. S. Bennett
Pvt. F. M. Duarte
PFC S. P. Griffin
Pvt. J. R. Gustafson
Pvt. T. L. Hemrich
PFC M. D. Holcombe
Pvt. C. A. Jones
PFC J. J. Jordan
PFC P. R. Juarez
PFC J. D. King
Pvt. E. J. Kinser
Pvt. B. R. Kirby
Pvt. M. R. Koester
PFC E. Kotovskiy
Pvt. E. Lara
*PFC A. T. Lasky
Pvt. R. L. Lebda
PFC B. S. Lee
Pvt. J. Lujan Fuentes
Pvt. J. L. Luman
Pvt. C. P. Marconett
Pvt. A. L. Martinez
Pvt. J. L. McKinely
*PFC R. R. Melendezrivas

Pvt. R. R. Noel
PFC S. Orozco
Pvt. R. E. Orr
Pvt. G. G. Ortiz
Pvt. L. A. Ortiz
PFC J. R. Palmer
Pvt. J. A. Palmer
Pvt. F. Perales
Pvt. J. H. Pinto
Pvt. J. W. Raabe
Pvt. S. K. Rehm
Pvt. D. E. Reyes
Pvt. J. Rios
Pvt. G. Rodriguez
Pvt. B. M. Rose
Pvt. J. A. Sanchez
Pvt. A. J. Schneider
Pvt. D. D. Sears
PFC A. J. Sloan
Pvt. S. D. Smith
Pvt. M. Solis
Pvt. R. C. Stapp
PFC R. C. Steward
Pvt. J. W. Stone
Pvt. G. D. Travis
PFC E. P. Trujillo
Pvt. J. Vargas
Pvt. T. J. Vivyan
Pvt. R. A. Williams

**denotes
meritorious
promotion*



Company A recruits gather to study for their final practical application test in Platoon 1083's squad bay three days before testing.
Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

COMPANY CURIOSITIES Here's how men from Alpha Company answered Chevron's random questions about their boot camp experiences:

Q: What was your favorite competitive event?



Pvt. Paul H. Rodriguez Jr.
Cushing, Okla.

A: Pugal sticks.

Q: What was your last day as a civilian like?



Pvt. Christopher D. Beavers
Wichita, Kan.

A: Stressful, waiting for my son to be born, but I missed him by two days.

Q: What was the worst day in boot camp?



Pvt. William A. Rodriguez
Los Angeles

A: The day I went into the gas chamber.

Q: What was the scariest moment of recruit training?



Pvt. Mark S. Carter
Panorama City, Calif.

A: ... When I got off that bus. I was scared and I didn't really know how to react to the drill instructors.

Q: What's the best MRE?



Pvt. Jon Beauchamp
Quinnesec, Mich.

A: Been Burrito. It was almost like eating at Taco Bell.



Retired Sgt. Maj. Ira J. Lott

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Sgt. Maj. Lott entered the Marine Corps May 24, 1972. He was assigned to Long Lines Company, 8th Communications Battalion, Force Troops, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

In February 1973 he was ordered to Okinawa, Japan and assigned to 9th Motor Transport Bn. at Camp Hansen as a field radio operator.

In 1974 he was redesignated as an air/ground intelligence specialist and was subsequently ordered to 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, Calif. Upon completion of the Intelligence Course in January 1975, he was assigned as the intelligence chief for Marine Attack Squadron 214, Marine Aircraft Group 13.

In August 1976 he attended Recruiters School and was ordered to Officer Selection Office New York City where he served four years as the NCOIC.

In 1980, he transferred to 1st Marine Amphibious Brigade for service as intelligence analyst for 3rd Marines and MAG-24 and the intelligence chief for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265.

Sgt. Maj. Lott was selected for first sergeant in May 1984 and was subsequently transferred to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center where he served as the first sergeant for Co. A, 1st Bn., 4th Marines; Co. A, 3rd Light-Armored Vehicle Bn. and Co. A, Headquarters Bn.

He was promoted to sergeant major in September 1991 and served as sergeant major for 1st Tank Bn., Recruiting Station San Diego, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, 5th Marines and finally Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area/Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. until his retirement in 2002.

Sgt. Maj. Lott's decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, two Navy Unit Commendation Medals, five Meritorious Unit Commendation Medals, 10 Good Conduct Medals, two Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, three National Defense Service Medals, six Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, and two Marine Corps Recruiting Ribbons.



From left to right, Privates First Class Neil D. McElroy, Joseph A. Zente VI, and Brandon M. Pack practice for their graduation ceremony. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron

Overdrive

CPAC's speed outlasts Coast Guard in 7-6 OT sudden-death victory



Week 1

Hq. Co.	0	12	1st Bn.
2nd Bn.	28	12	Dental
3rd Bn.	39	0	PMO
District	14	7	Supt. Bn. 2
CPAC	7	6	Coast Guard

Coast Guard tight end Petty Officer 2nd Class Chad Brook runs for the open field as teammate Petty Officer 2nd Class Jon Gentile blocks CPAC end Capt. Bryan R. McClune.
Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron photos



Under pressure to end the game, CPAC's Lance Cpl. Robert W. Hill scores a touchdown.

BY CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT
Chevron staff

Pigskin lovers aboard the depot received a full dose of high-powered, eight-on-eight flag football during the opening day of the Commanding General's Cup flag football season July 20. Games kicked off at 9:30 a.m. and concluded at 3:30 p.m. At the end of the six-game day, the Consolidated Personnel Administrative Center's 7-6 overtime victory over the Coast Guard proved to be the most exciting game of the day, said Rachel Dickinson, intramural sports coordinator here.

"Our team speed was the key to the win," said CPAC running back Cpl. Jamal M. Stewart, who had two catches and two rushes for more than 50 yards.

"They were big and tough, but we were able to wear them down with speed at the end," said Stewart.

Though the Coast Guard's team was bigger on average, CPAC has a big player as well. At 6 feet 2 inches tall and 207 pounds, CPAC tight end

Lance Cpl. R.W. Hill is one of their biggest players. His game-winning catch in the end zone was the biggest play for CPAC.

"I just kept my eye on the ball," said Hill about his gaming winning reception. "Now we just have to stay focused and win our next two games to establish ourselves in the champi-

onship tournament."

According to Hill, teamwork and leadership will be the reasons why his team will take the championship Aug. 24, at the season's end.

For more information on the CG's cup intramural flag football season, call Dickinson at (619) 524-0548.



CPAC defensive back Lance Cpl. Christopher Ransom rolls after a first-half-ending interception.